Missions abroad where there are no Heads of Missions in position at present. These Indian Missions are in Sudan, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Indonesia and Suriname. The post of Head of Indian Mission in Sudan is vacant since 17th December, 2001, Pakistan since 25th December, 2001, Republic of Korea since 8th August, 2002, Mongolia since 16th October, 2002, Indonesia since 30th October, 2002 and Suriname since 8th November, 2002. Government had withdrawn the High Commissioner from Pakistan following the December, 13 attack on our Parliament and the absence of any effective steps taken by the Government of Pakistan to put an end to cross border infiltration and terrorism.

(c) New Heads of Missions for Sudan, Republic of Korea and Indonesia have already been nominated and will be moving very shortly after completion of certain mandatory formalities. Necessary action is in hand regarding the appointment of Heads of Missions in Mongolia and Suriname.

Infrastructure for cross border terrorism in PoK

2278. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is reluctant to dismantle the infrastructure for cross border terrorism in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir;

(b) whether the United States has urged India to consider going back to the round table talk with Pakistan and want to see rail and air links restored between the two countries; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) President Musharraf in his address to the nation on 12th January and 27th May, 2002 gave a commitment that Pakistan would not allow its territory to be used for any terrorist activity anywhere in the world and no organization would be allowed to indulge in terrorism in the name of Kashmir. However, cross border infiltration and terrorist violence has continued. Even though Pakistan took some action against some terrorist groups and arrested some low-level cadres, there is no evidence of any firm action against the infrastructure in Pakistan that supports cross border terrorism.

(b) and (c) There have been suggestions from some countries, including the United States, about the possible role of dialogue in reduction of tension. India remains committed to resuming bilateral dialogue with Pakistan in the spirit of Simla Agreement and Lahore Declaration. However, Pakistan must stop its sponsorship of cross border terrorism against India for any meaningful dialogue to be held. Members of the international community generally understand India's position.

Illegal immigration of Indians to West European countries

2279. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been a sudden jump in the number of cases of illegal immigration of Indian citizens to West European countries *via* Poland through Moscow;

(b) if so, the number of persons repatriated by those countries during the last one year;

(c) whether the agents who were involved in this racket have been arrested;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what action Government have taken against the persons who tried to reach those countries illegally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) According to the information made available to our Embassy in Poland by the local authorities, there has been asharp increase in the number of persons, reported to be Indian nationals who have been detained for illegal entry into Poland or trying to enter Germany illegally from Poland in 2002.

(b) In 2002, 17 Indian nationals, who had entered Poland illegally were sent back to India. Our Embassy in Moscow has so far helped repatriate 31 persons in 2002 to India from Europe and Cuba *via* Moscow.